

LeRay McAllister Critical Land Conservation Fund

Summit Park



Description: Summit Park provides high quality, old-growth forest land along the Wasatch Front. The site provides outstanding resource protection benefits, including critical watershed protection, scenic quality, and wildlife habitat. In addition, the 343-acre property contains three prominent peaks.

Location: This project is located ten miles east of Salt Lake City and seven miles northwest of Park City. The entire site is highly visible from I-80 at Parleys

Summit.

Acreage: 343 acres

Grant funding: \$400,000

Total Project Cost: \$1,612,000

Grant Awarded: August 2000

Land Ownership: Private

Conservation Easement Held by: Division of Forestry, Fire

and State Lands

Local Support: Park City, Summit County, Mountain Trails

Foundation, Snyderville Basin Recreation

Public Benefits

Water Quality: Preserving this site is an important step toward preserving the Wasatch Front's water quality. The site contains the headwaters to three streams flowing into East Canyon Creek, and the stands of Douglas fir and Subalpine fir on this site are critical groundwater recharge areas for the Wasatch Front.

Wildlife Habitat: Summit Park contains one of the largest stands of old-growth Subalpine fir in the state of Utah. These dense stands of old-growth timber provide critical habitat to numerous species like mule deer, elk, moose, mountain lion, bobcat, red fox, and raccoon to name just a few. The presence of large snags provides food, nesting and denning opportunities for a variety of birds, mammals and reptiles. Bird species noted on the site include Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Golden Eagle, Bald Eagle, and Great-horned Owl.

Viewshed/Scenic Quality: Summit Park's rugged topography, ridge lines, peaks, and stands of aspen and firs are highly visible from Interstate 80. Preserving this site protects Parley's Canyon's picturesque beauty and can be enjoyed from the freeway.

Recreation: There are opportunities for back country skiing and the development of a trail system for hiking.

To view other projects funded by the LeRay McAllister Critical Land Conservation Fund, please visit our website: www.governor.state.ut.us/quality

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